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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Event Reminder

Capitol celebration, awards and scholarship dinner to mark Hispanic Heritage Month on October 12, 2005

LANSING- The month-long observation of Hispanic Heritage Month in Michigan will include a celebration of Hispanic culture at the State Capitol with an Awards and Scholarship Dinner in Lansing on October 12. Citizens from all across Michigan will participate in the day-long festivities, which will include a student summit at Lansing Community College, a free lunch on the Capitol lawn featuring ethnic cuisine, a college fair and tours of cultural sites in Lansing. In addition to cultural events at the Capitol, there will be an Awards and Scholarship Dinner at the Holiday Inn South in Lansing.

During the dinner event, the Hispanic Legislative Caucus will be presenting awards to recognize outstanding Hispanics throughout the State of Michigan in the areas of Business and Economic Development, Civic Involvement, Education, Lifetime Achievement, Art, and Youth Leadership. The Hispanic Legislative Caucus is also offering scholarships to Latino students who have demonstrated a commitment to academic excellence, and a desire to further their education at a college or university.

State Senator Valde Garcia (R-Howell) and State Representatives John Espinoza (D-Croswell) and Lee Gonzales (D-Flint Township) hope that you will take this opportunity to help them recognize those who have exhibited and pride in their heritage. Tickets for the dinner event are available by calling the Commission on Spanish Speaking Affairs at (517) 373-8339 for \$35.00, \$280.00 for a table.

For more information and to apply for scholarship and award opportunities please visit www.michiganhispanicheritage.org.

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The agenda for the event is as follows:

All attendees are encouraged to contact their state representative and state senator to arrange a personal meeting time as their schedules may vary.

MORNING PROGRAM

- 9 a.m. Capitol Tours & Natural History Museum Tours until 2 p.m.
- 9:30 a.m. Student tour of Lansing Community College Campus
- 10 a.m. Senate Session-Senate Resolution commemorating Hispanic Heritage month to be introduced by Senator Valde Garcia.
- 10:30 a.m. Student Summit at Dart Auditorium at Lansing Community College featuring Raquel “Rocky” Egusquiza, Director of Community Development and International Strategy for Ford Motor Company.
- 11:30 a.m. Opening ceremonies on the Capitol lawn. Event will include a flag exchange and a welcome address.
- Noon Lunch on the Capitol lawn, music and dancing. Community organizations and area colleges and universities will be on site offering informational materials.
- 1:00 p.m. House Session-House Resolution commemorating Hispanic Heritage month to be introduced by Representatives John Espinoza and Lee Gonzales

EVENING PROGRAM

- 5 p.m. Reception and Silent Auction at the Holiday Inn South, Lansing
- 6 p.m. Dinner reception welcome and invocation
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner
- 7 p.m. Dinner program with special presentation for award and scholarship winners. The evening’s featured speaker is Raquel “Rocky” Egusquiza, Director of Community Development and International Strategy for Ford Motor Company.

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